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ABSTRACT

Learning centers are special areas in the classroom where students can work independently or in small groups to build a concept, explore a topic, or refine a skill. Learning centers are a way to meet the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs of elementary school students through active involvement in the learning process by enabling classrooms to decentralize and become student-centered rather than teacher-directed. This book begins with an overview of learning centers, including the rationale for these centers, a description of how they work, and benefits they provide. The other chapters cover: starting a learning center, planning activities, classroom management, student accountability, and authentic assessment. Suggested activities and sample forms are included. (Contains 31 references.) (ND)

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